

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) Process for making high-performance polyethylene multifilament yarn comprising the steps of:
 - a) making a solution of ultra-high molar mass polyethylene (UHPE) in a solvent, wherein the UHPE has an intrinsic viscosity of between 5 and 40 dl/g;
 - b) spinning of the solution through a spinplate containing a plurality of spinholes into an air-gap to form fluid filaments, while applying a draw ratio DR_{fluid} of at least 50, wherein $DR_{fluid} = DR_{sp} \times DR_{ag}$, where DR_{sp} is the draw ratio in the spinholes and DR_{ag} is the draw ratio in the air-gap, with DR_{sp} being greater than 1 and DR_{ag} being at least 1;
 - c) cooling the fluid filaments to form solvent-containing gel filaments;
 - d) removing at least partly the solvent from the filaments; and
 - e) drawing the filaments in at least one step before, during and/or after said solvent removing, while applying a draw ratio DR_{solid} of at least 4, wherein each of the spinholes has a geometry comprising a contraction zone having a gradual decrease in diameter from a diameter D_0 to a diameter D_n and a cone angle in the range 8-75°, and wherein each of the spinholes further comprises an inflow zone of constant diameter of at least D_0 and a length L_0 , with a length/diameter ratio L_0/D_0 of at least 5, and wherein
each of the spinholes comprises a zone downstream of the contraction zone having a constant diameter D_n of from 0.3 to 5 mm and a length L_n with a length/diameter ratio L_n / D_n of from 0 to at most 25.
2. (original) Process according to claim 1, wherein the spinplate contains at least 100 spinholes.

3. (canceled)
4. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the cone angle is from 10 to 60°.
5. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the draw ratio in the spinholes is at least 5.
6. (original) Process according to claim 5, wherein the draw ratio in the spinholes is at least 10.
7. (previously presented) Process according to claim 3, wherein the length/diameter ratio L_n/D_n is at most 20.
8. (previously presented) Process according to claim 7, wherein the length/diameter ratio L_n/D_n is at most 15.
9. (canceled)
10. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the length/diameter ratio L_0/D_0 is at least 10.
11. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the spinplate comprises at least 10 cylindrical spinholes, and wherein each cylindrical spinhole includes an inflow zone of constant diameter D_0 and a length L_0 with a length/diameter ratio L_0/D_0 of at least 10, a downstream zone of constant diameter D_n and a length L_n with a length/diameter ratio L_n/D_n of at most 15, and a contraction zone between the inflow and downstream zones having a gradual decrease in diameter from the diameter D_0 to the diameter D_n with a cone angle in the range of 10-60°.
12. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the fluid draw ratio DR_{fluid} applied to fluid filaments is at least 100.

13. (previously presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein step b) comprises spinning a 3-15 mass% solution of linear UHPE of IV 15-25 dl/g through a spinplate containing at least 10 spinholes into an air-gap, the spinholes comprising a contraction zone with a cone angle in the range 10-60° and comprising a zone downstream of the contract zone having a constant diameter D_n and a length L_n with a length/diameter ratio L_n/D_n smaller than 10, while applying a fluid draw ratio $DR_{fluid} = DR_{sp} \times DR_{ag}$ of at least 100 and a draw ratio DR_{solid} of between 10 and 30.
14. (currently amended) Spinplate for spinning ultra-high molar mass polyethylene (UHPE) having an intrinsic viscosity of between 5 and 40 dl/g comprising at least 10 spinholes, wherein each spinhole has a geometry comprising an inflow zone of constant diameter of at least D_0 and a length of L_0 and a length/diameter ratio L_0/D_0 of at least 5, a downstream zone of constant diameter of at least D_n , wherein D_n is from 0.3 to 5 mm, and a length L_n and a length/diameter ratio L_n/D_n of from 0 to 25, and a contraction zone between the inflow and downstream zones having a gradual decrease in diameter from the diameter D_0 of the inflow zone to the diameter D_n of the downstream zone and a cone angle in the range 8-75°.
15. (previously presented) Spinplate according to claim 14, comprising at least 100 spinholes.